

Contracts made with master of a vessel in distress to be void.

SEC. 22. *And be it enacted,* That all contracts made between the master of any vessel in distress and any pilot shall be void, but the pilot shall be entitled to a reasonable reward for his aid and services rendered.

How vacancies in board of examiners are to be filled.

SEC. 23. *And be it enacted,* That if any of the said board of examiners shall die, resign, refuse to act or remove from the said city, or be otherwise rendered incapable to act, the remaining examiners, or a majority of them, shall fill up such vacancy, provided that they shall so regulate their appointments as to have at least one member of the board a person skilled in the business of piloting.

Commencement of act.

SEC. 24. *And be it enacted,* That this act shall commence on the first day of February, eighteen hundred and four, and shall continue in force until the congress of the United States of America shall take cognizance of the subject.

By an act of congress of 1789, ch. 9, it was enacted, that all pilots in the bays, &c. of the United States, should continue to be regulated by the laws of the states, until further provision by congress; which has not been made.

Foreign vessels obliged to take a pilot.

SEC. 25. *And be it enacted,* That all vessels belonging to persons not citizens of any of the United States, which shall hereafter arrive from sea at any port or ports in this state, shall be obliged to take a pilot, (in case any one offers,) and pay one-third additional pilotage in addition to the fees allowed by this act, and if the captain of such vessel shall refuse to take such pilot on application, he shall notwithstanding be answerable for, and liable to pay, such pilotage, in the same manner as if the service was performed.

Penalty for neglecting to renew warrants.

SEC. 26. *And,* for an inducement to pilots to pay attention to renew their warrants annually in the months of April and May in every year, ***Be it enacted,*** That such pilot or pilots who shall neglect to renew as aforesaid, shall, after the first day of June in every year, pay double fees for a renewal of their warrants, unless prevented by sickness, or being carried out to sea.

Board competent to decide all matters relative to this act.

SEC. 27. *And be it enacted,* That the aforesaid board of examiners shall be competent to determine, decide and adjudge, all and every matter relative to this act, whether penalty or dispute, within three days after application by the complainants.

Acts repealed.

SEC. 28. *And be it enacted,* That an act, entitled, an act to establish pilots, and to regulate their fees, passed November session, seventeen hundred and eighty-seven,* and the supplement thereto, passed at November session, seventeen hundred and ninety,† so far as the same is provided for by this act, be and the same is hereby repealed.

* Chap. 26.

† Chap. 27.